



April 2025

“We’re Better than  
The New York Times”

Issue No. 4

### Special Investigative Report

## Garrison Cafeteria Food Spurs Gratitude and Debate

By Luka Maru

When you think about lunch, what do you think?

Many Garrison students enjoy the food, and we all appreciate the hard work of the cafeteria workers.

But let us tell you: Not all people think good things. Some people don’t like lunch.

There are “only two good lunches — French toast and nachos,” said Surya (age 10).

“Their meat is terrible,” according to Mckenzie (age 10).”

“Zero to 10 million,” said Nahome.

On the other hand, plenty of students had positive things to say!

“Chicken nugget, slay,” said Emmie (age 9). Emily (age 10) added, “Yeah.”

“Lunch is kind of good,” commented Ayden (age unknown).

Last but certainly not least, Madison (age 10) said that the “lunch ladies are nice.”

Well, that’s all. See you in the next paper, because we’re better than *The New York Times!*



*Students eat and perhaps discuss their favorite things about lunch*

## Students Perform for Black History Month

By Grayson Bea Maiselman

The Black History Month performance was amazing. It highlighted different cultures from Africa in different ways. The teachers and students went above and beyond for this one, and it showed. Everything was perfect.



## Easter is Coming!

By Soliana Getachew

Easter is a big, happy celebration of springtime and new beginnings! It's a day when everything feels bright and cheerful, with colorful eggs and flowers everywhere.

There's a special kind of excitement in the air, like a fun treasure hunt is about to begin, and everyone is sharing smiles and sweet treats.

It's a day that makes people hopeful and happy, and you can feel the joy of spring season spreading, making everything feel a little bit more joyful and full of fun surprises!



## Kendrick Lamar Amazes Viewers with Super Bowl Performance

By Skye Harrison, Claire Pitman, and Emani Willoby

This year's Super Bowl halftime show, featuring Kendrick Lamar, was amazing.

Our favorite part of the halftime show was the introduction, when the music was going on and off. We also loved it when SZA came on stage and the two of them started performing "Luther."

Kendrick did a good job on the stage. We particularly enjoyed how he kept teasing the audience with the intro for "Not Like Us."

Then he actually played it! People thought he wasn't going to play it, but he surprised them with the song!

Another thing we appreciated was the set-up and the choreography of the dancers. We loved the moves they had. (What about y'all?) The part where they had the dancers walk around that platform, then go on the platform, was cool. We loved the moves that SZA did — very smooth and calming, not too much.

We loved the message of the whole performance. One of the messages was about "forty acres and a mule."



*Kendrick Lamar and SZA perform "Luther" at the Super Bowl*

Forty acres and a mule was a promise that the formerly enslaved got, then the government took it away from them. Just like Kendrick said, "Forty acres and a mule — this is bigger than the music." He was showing that his performance was not just a performance — but a message also.

Finally: Congrats to the Philadelphia Eagles! They played a great game and won the Superbowl!

## Who Are the "Big Backs"?

By Surya Chandrasekharan and Yaretzi Flores Tores

The phrase "Big Back" refers to someone who eats a lot of food, and we have made our own club at Garrison called "the Big Back Squad."

The members are all 4<sup>th</sup> graders. In addition to your correspondents, the members include Emmie, Madison, Luka, Emely, Ashley, Luis, Allison, Ariela, Riley, Briana, Amelia, Saron, Ollie, Amy, Josue, Hunter, and Maddox

Some of our biggest backs are Surya, Yaretzi, and Madison.

Asked for comment, Madison stated, "I am such a big back." (She also noted that "Gi-Hun is the best 'Squid Game' character, with Ali second.")

"You finally get an excuse to eat a lot of food," she added.

*With assistance from Emely Aquino Gonzalez*



## Politics with Emmie and Sailaja

By Emmie Ober and Sailaja Duraiswamy

On February 5th, thousands of people across the country marched the streets to protest President Donald Trump's actions. You might be wondering, what did he do?

Well, to start, he fired thousands of federal employees. Some of these thousands of people were probably at the protest against the president's actions. Some people think that Trump's team is using Project 2025 to make changes to federal health programs.



*Fired federal workers protest*

According to a report from CNN 10, "Inflation is going the wrong way, reaching its highest rate since June of last year." A lot of people are disappointed about this because one of Trump's promises was to make inflation go down. Inflation is the increase of prices of goods and services.



*People are worried about inflation!*

On February 28th, Trump met with Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, to discuss how to end the war with Russia, but the meeting ended in screaming. President Trump supposedly kicked Zelenskyy out. Why?

Zelenskyy said that Trump wasn't helping Ukraine when they needed it the most. Also, Trump and Vice President JD Vance thought Zelenskyy wasn't showing enough gratitude for the U.S. Trump replied by saying that he wasn't in the White House earlier. Zelenskyy said that's why they need him to help now. This insulted Trump, and Trump started insulting Zelenskyy back.



*Volodymyr Zelenskyy and JD Vance argue in the Oval Office*

Trump stopped sharing our intelligence with Ukraine because Trump is mad at Zelenskyy. John Ratcliffe, who is the head of the CIA, said that this pause could be temporary, but others think otherwise. Ratcliffe also thinks that this pause is an effort to put pressure on Ukraine to get to the negotiating table.



*CIA Director John Ratcliffe*

According to a report from Politico, national security adviser Mike Waltz confirmed that Trump would be reviewing all aspects of the relationship with Ukraine.

Trump also said that Congress should get rid of the landmark CHIPS Act, which is a law that was passed during the Biden administration.

## Politics with Emmie and Sailaja (continued)

Meanwhile, there are many lawsuits being filed against Trump. Elon Musk started a new organization called DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency), which is going around and stopping certain expenditures that they don't like, when Congress has already approved of them. This is causing some discord as people are wondering whether DOGE can be doing this and whether they should be doing this. The effects of stopping expenditures have already taken place, but none have had a good outcome so far.



*World's richest man, Elon Musk, oddly celebrates*

Trump and DOGE are also firing people left and right. On top of firing thousands of people in the past couple months, they are particularly targeting people who have just recently started a job where they have less protection. Even if those people have worked in the government for a long time, they might have gotten a promotion, which means that they are very good at their job and have started a new one. However, because they've started a new job, they have less security and are being fired for no reason whatsoever even if they are good at their job. These are some reasons why lawsuits are being filed against Trump and his administration.



*Federal courthouse in Washington, D.C.*

Trump and his administration are also trying to intimidate people so that they stop trying to oppose him. A bunch of state government offices and non-profit organizations are trying to file lawsuits against Trump because he can't really do anything to them. However, they don't have as much money to get enough resources to last them a while. Normally companies partner up with nonprofit organizations, because they have more resources. But Trump is intimidating them, and companies are getting scared that if they go against him, they might be fired.

### Politics Section Bonus

Co-author Emmie recently met Ayanna Pressley at the airport!

Pressley is a member of Congress. She serves in the U.S. House of Representatives and represents a district in Massachusetts. She is the first black woman elected to Congress from Massachusetts.



## NOTABLE FIGURES

### Soccer Player of the Month

By Surya Chandrasekharan

Neymar is a 33-year-old soccer player who just went back to his starter club, Santos Fc. He returned to Brazil from Saudi Arabia.

Neymar has had an unbelievably bad season. He has been injured recently and was injured in earlier seasons as well.

He has been horrible. Hopefully he stops getting injured, because he has a lot of potential.

Neymar had his first match with Santos Fc in February, at 1:00 am D.C. time. He was fouled one time, and he did not quit like usual. Neymar was named man of the match, and Santos tied with Botafogo SP.



*Neymar in action*

### Artist of the Month

By Surya Chandrasekharan

Eminem — also known as “Slim Shady” — lives peacefully in Michigan. He is a widely acclaimed rapper who released his first album in 1997. His real name is Marshall Mathers.

Eminem’s fastest-rapping song is “Godzilla,” in which he raps 12.73 syllables per second. He is the 5<sup>th</sup> fastest rapper in the world.

Asked to reflect on Eminem’s influence, Maddox Hilderbrand (4<sup>th</sup> grade) said, “He’s a great rapper, and I listen to him every day.”

Henry Bartlett (4<sup>th</sup> grade) commented on Eminem’s depth. “He is great,” Bartlett said, “but his music videos are not literal.”

In the latest Eminem news, federal prosecutors recently charged one of Eminem’s former sound engineers with selling Eminem’s unreleased music for bitcoin.

In response to the case, a representative for Eminem stated, “The significant damage caused by a trusted employee to Eminem’s artistic legacy and creative integrity cannot be overstated, let alone the enormous financial losses incurred by the many creators and collaborators that deserve protection for their decades of work.”

The defendant faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted.



*Eminem (Marshall Mathers)*

## REVIEWS

### Car Review: Nissan Skyline R34

By Josue Labaceno Vasquez

Here are some fun facts about the Nissan Skyline R34:

Fact #1 — The car is fast and has 276 horsepower.

Fact #2 — The car's torque is 289 lb/ft.

Fact #3 — This car is powered by a range of naturally aspirated or turbo charged inline six engines ranging from 2.0L to 2.6L in displacement.

Fact #4 — I personally think that this car is very nice and cool. It has a cool turbo, and the body type is just good.

Fact #5 — Not all the versions of the R34 GT-R come with the RB26 DETT engine.



Sorry folks, but this will be the end of my article for this edition. I promise that I will come up with a new and even better review in our next issue!

### Oscar-Winning Movie *Flow* Is Worth Your Time

By Skye Harrison

*Flow* was a great film. Seeing the cat interact with the other characters was a beautiful moment.

The movie was full of emotions. The art was pretty.

I'm glad it won an Oscar; it deserved the award!

I rate it 10/10. You should watch it. If you do, I hope you like it!



### Animal Review: Stickbugs

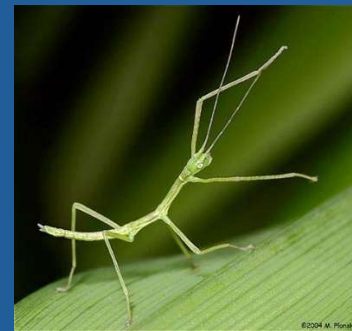
By Chris Claros Reyes

Right now, I'm going to tell you about the stickbug.

The reason why I care about it so much is because the stickbug is my Roblox skin avatar, and it looks so cool. It reminds me of the old times because there is an old meme (joke) about it.

Stickbugs are exotic pets and monsters at camouflaging, and they have been around for more than 126 million years! The stickbug diet is plants and leaves. The stickbug's life span is 18 months.

Make stickbug famous!



# CARTOONS

## The Party Crasher

By Buraimoh Gbadamosi

Party 6 crasher





# Pandas Return to the D.C. Zoo

By Luka Maru

